

Shelby County Register of Deeds/Archives Office of Shelandra Y. Ford

May 2022

Volume 5 Edition 5

THE HOUSING CRISIS “ STAYING THE COURSE”



National Organization Of Black County
Officials
State of the Housing Crisis Forum Participants



Better Business Bureau “The Voice of
Truth” Host- Toddnetta Trice (middle)
Right to left -Register of Deeds Shelandra
Ford and CAO Adrienne Dailey-Evans



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As your Shelby County Register of Deeds, our office is “**Staying the Course**” to ensure the community is aware of the Housing Crisis facing Memphis/Shelby County. We were invited as special guest of the Better Business Bureau (BBB) to discuss the Housing Crisis and what homeowners should do to protect their property. I also attended the 36th Annual National Organization of Black Officials, Economic Development Conference and served on the State of the Housing Crisis forum. Each of these events allowed me an opportunity to educate the public regarding the housing crisis facing the United States of America and it’s impact in our community.

There are many factors impacting the current housing crisis, the pandemic, the closing of raw material production companies, availability of raw materials, and out of state investors purchasing homes to rent to name a few.

Once pandemic restrictions for companies shipping raw materials was lifted, the production for building new homes was backlogged, therefore, production of new homes on the market is very low. This increases the demand for existing homes on the market. Investors are looking to buy homes they can fix up, but they are not interested in selling these homes, they invest in these properties to rent. People are offering the promise of quick payoffs on property that has been in families for years, and homeowners are losing the true value of their homes. With out of town Investors renting these homes, the dream of becoming a “HOME OWNER” is just that, “A DREAM!” Recent research shows in order to rent a two bedroom, one bathroom apartment, the renter has to make no less than \$17.00 an hour. The current rental cost for a two bedroom, one bathroom home in Shelby County Tennessee could cost approximately \$1,150 a month. When you include everyday living expenses, utilities, food, and clothing, all these factors impact the HOUSING CRISIS!

Attending and participating in national, state and local forums, utilizing media venues to inform property owners of the state of the housing market, and participating in podcasts, are all a part of “**Staying The Course.**” Community Awareness, is my ongoing priority.

Register Shelandra Y. Ford

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Register Ford with Telisa Franklin
on 104FM WAVN THE TREND podcast

ARCHIVE CORNER

Tom Lee a Memphis Hero and an American History Maker



Tom Lee at the White House
with
President Calvin Coolidge



Portrait of Tom Lee



M. E. Norman

On May 8, 1925, Tom Lee was in his small motor boat on the Mississippi River finishing his job with C.W. Hunter, a company doing repair work along the river. The steamer, the M.E. Norman had just passed him and Lee was sure the Norman was in trouble. Within seconds the Norman (Norman) rolled over and capsized in the swift current trapping dozens of passengers and hurling others into the river. Although he couldn't swim, Tom Lee rescued 32 people with five trips to shore. After making four trips to the sandbar, Lee gathered some driftwood and built a fire because the survivors were shivering from shock and from the cold. Afterwards he went back and continued his search for more survivors, staying at it until morning. He had acted quickly and calmly, without regard for his own safety. When those 32 survivors returned to Memphis, all talk was about the "mysterious black man who had saved them." Reporters were eager to find Tom and get his story.

The heroism shown by Tom Lee captured the imagination of Memphis and America. His story eventually appeared in newspapers across the country. Everyone wanted to meet this amazing hero and Lee became everyone's idol. This shy man was deeply embarrassed to be in the spotlight for so many days but he was now a celebrity, although somewhat reluctant.

Tom was invited to the White House to meet President Calvin Coolidge. Memphis began discussions about doing something for this hometown hero and many tributes/gifts poured in. Jeweler Julius Goodman presented Tom with a gold watch. The Memphis Engineer's Club had a fundraiser to buy Mr. Lee a house.

In his honor, Tom Lee Park was developed and officially opened in 1954. The park encompasses about 30 acres, overlooking Riverside Drive along the Mississippi River.

Top photos and Article excerpts: <https://historic-memphis.com/biographies/tom-lee/tom-lee.html>



Tom Lee Statue in Tom Lee Park

Left Photo :<https://www.thejaxsonmag.com/article/a-tour-of-the-memphis-riverfront-page-2/>

Right Photo: <https://www.smartcitymemphis.com/2017/03/turning-tom-lee-park-into-a-memphis-icon/>



Tom Lee Park Memphis Tennessee

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Register Shelandra Ford and her Outreach Team participated in the
"Telisa Franklin & Friends"
COMMUNITY EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA
Sounding the Alarm on Property Fraud and handing out Easter Bags



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Register Ford and her Outreach Team signed up over 175 Shelby County Property Owners for the Register of Deeds **FREE "Fraud Alert"** program at the Africa in April 2022 Festival!



Register Ford and members of her staff attended the
35th Annual International
Business & Economic Development Trade Luncheon



Paul A. Young, President & CEO, Downtown Memphis Commission

Stan Bell, Radio Host

Dr. David Acey, Africa In April, Executive Director of Africa in April



Lee Harris, Shelby County Mayor

Sheldandra Y. Ford, Shelby County Register of Deeds

Floyd Bonner, Shelby County Sheriff

Adrienne Evans, CAO Register of Deeds office

Laquita Caldwell, Register of Deeds Team Member

Evelyn McGuire, Register of Deeds Team Member



Adrienne Evans, CAO Register of Deeds office

Stan Bell, Radio Host

Sheldandra Y. Ford, Shelby County Register of Deeds
Monte Quarles



Yvonne B. Acey, Associate Director of Africa in April

Dr. David Acey, Executive Director of Africa in April



Sheldandra Ford Shelby County Register of Deeds

Joe Harmon

Larry Pivnick

James Polk

Dr. David and Yvonne Acey

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

STOMP THE YARD FOR DEMOCRACY IN HOUSING

The Women's Council of National Association of Real Estate Brokers a.k.a. WCNMemphis, held it's First Annual 5K "Stomp the Yard for Democracy in Housing" event on Saturday, April 30, 2022. WCNMemphis motivation for the event was to partner with community organizations across Memphis and Shelby County to focus on the housing crisis by offering educational insight, financial counseling and assistance to persons interested in one day becoming property owners. Their vision is to make this an Annual County Wide Festival!



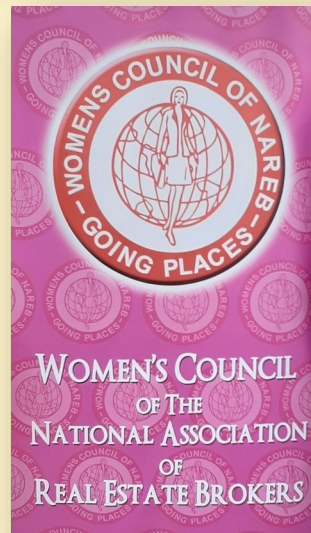
Left to right
WCNMemphis past president, Ludora Cooper
Current president, Kaye Thompson
WCNMemphis Madam Governor, Nedra Redditt



Left to right
Nedra Redditt
Register Shelandra Y. Ford



Carla Tracy
Mortgage Loan Officer/Community Lending Specialist
Trust Mark Bank



Ruth Kerr
Closing Coordinator for Millennial Title



Angela Majors & Register Ford



Jennifer Hart
City of Memphis Division of Housing and Community Development





ALONZO GRIFFIN

May 5th



LAQUITA CALDWELL

May 23rd

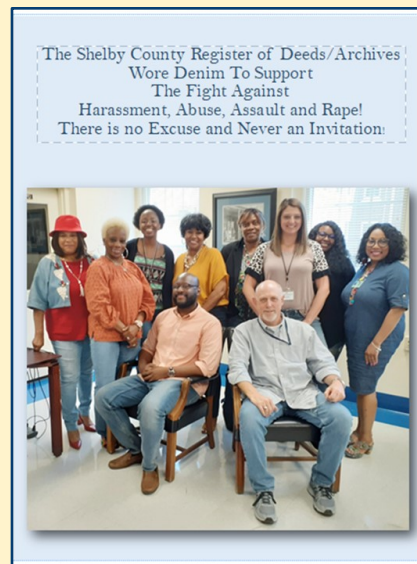
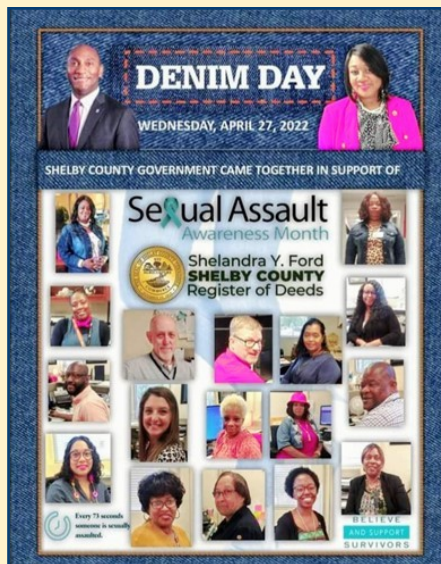


BRANDON WEISE

May 17th

**THE REGISTER OF DEEDS/ARCHIVES SUPPORTS THE SHELBY COUNTY
CRIME VICTIMS AND RAPE CRISIS CENTER (CVRCC)**

**APRIL 27, 2022
SHELBY COUNTY
EMPLOYEES
WORE
DENIM TO
SUPPORT
THE
SHELBY COUNTY
CRIME VICTIMS
AND
RAPE CRISIS
CENTER**



**FOR ASSISTANCE
CALL**

(901) 222-3950

**OR
LOG INTO**

<https://shelbycountyttn.gov/737/Crime-Victims-Rape-Crisis-Center>



SHELBY COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS /ARCHIVES

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DOWNTOWN SATELLITE OFFICE

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WHITEHAVEN SATELLITE OFFICE

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ARCHIVES OFFICE

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Register of Deeds/Archives Website: www.register.shelby.tn.us